

News Release

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Galveston District regulatory project manager wins top honor

Cited for "initiative, skill and superior service"

Jayson Hudson, a regulatory project manager in the policy analysis section of the Regulatory Branch, Galveston District, has been selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Southwestern Division Regulator of the Year. Hudson was cited for initiative, skill and superior service in performing his duties during 2009.

Additionally, his researching and working with applicants on authorizing new and innovative energy projects, which included numerous wind farm proposals, two nuclear plant proposals and a hydropower desalination demonstration project, have significantly reduced impacts to the nation's aquatic environment, while simultaneously advancing clean energy options.

"Mr. Hudson's efforts this year were exemplary, which have benefited both Corps employees and customers alike," said Fred Anthamatten, chief of the Regulatory Branch for the Galveston District.

Specific Regulatory Branch achievements include drafting up the budget standard operating procedure that has set the framework for consistent reproducible budget assessments, adding to fiscal operational efficiency within the branch, according to Casey Cutler, chief of the policy analysis section for the Galveston District. Hudson also acted as the team lead on a multiagency effort to create a stream mitigation model process to ensure no net loss of this resource, which does not have many tested assessment models nationwide.

"Mr. Hudson researched and helped design the Galveston District's first Geographic Information System-based Cumulative Effects Assessment concept for both Galveston Island and Corpus Christi Bay," said Cutler. "These

efforts required hundreds of hours of research, which culminated into a cutting-edge system that has advanced the district into 21st-century technology."

Hudson coordinated with the Harris County Flood Control District to create a Regional General Permit for maintenance activities, according to Cutler. This coordination advanced the efficiency for a multi-repeat client and created a heavily-used and predictable permit application process for routine maintenance.

"Mr. Hudson also revised the Cooperative Agreement between the Corps and the Texas General Land Office to transfer administration of eight Regional General Permits for oil field development," said Cutler. "This added significantly to the efficiency and effectiveness of the entire Regulatory Branch and benefitted the stakeholders in efficient authorization of their projects."

Hudson was involved in coordinating two funding agreements, pursuant to Section 214 of the Water Resource Development Act of 2000, which benefitted the permit process efficiency of two stakeholders and an efficient use of the Regulatory Branch's budget.



Jayson Hudson, a regulatory project manager for the Galveston District, was named the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Southwestern Division Regulator of the Year. (USACE photo)

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His efforts in updating seven Regional General Permits for offshore and state-owned submerged lands and three Regional General Permits for directional drilling, aerial transmission lines and Corpus Christi inner harbor basin also helped to ensure fair and reasonable decisions on authorizations.

"Mr. Hudson has exceeded the objectives to improve technical skills and abilities in the Regulatory Branch," said Anthamatten. "We are proud of his efforts, as he is most-deserving of this prestigious award."

Hudson received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Texas A&M University in 1996 and Master of Science in Wildlife Biology from Texas State University-San Marcos in 1999.

He has also worked in other areas of the Galveston District's Regulatory Branch, including one year in the evaluation section and five years in the compliance and enforcement section. He has worked in the policy analysis section for five years.

This is the second consecutive year a Galveston District employee has taken home division honors.